





pick it when fully or nearly ripe with a copper pin, it will decay so fast that you can see it. Why the quinine did not cure it, we do not know. But it is a fact that the disease known as pear blight is infectious and may be transmitted from one tree to another, in inoculation of some doubt.

I have my own theory about the blight, and will reserve it, for fear it will meet with the same fate as all others hitherto advanced as worthless; but I will say that I have seen pear trees six feet up, all running east and west, and half north and south, and a single tree has been injured to any extent, only a branch or so, on any of these running east and west; but on those running north and south, in one spot, four trees were entirely killed and eight or ten more greatly injured, and more than this only four or five kinds of pears were attacked, and three trees of one variety standing more than 800 feet from each other were nearly killed outright. I leave Prof. Arthur and others interested in this subject to the cause of the blight, but I will say that up to 1882 the largest crop of pears I ever had 1300 bushels. This year I have gathered 1200 bushels and have quite 500 more to pick, notwithstanding the loss of twenty or thirty trees and the injury of fifteen or twenty more, by the blight in 1882.

Prof. Arthur claims by saving that the mode by which the disease is naturally propagated. The Dutch geographers have been to the east to discover the cause of the blight, but it broke out at Toulon, where it has not been known for many years, and the germ theory don't work. When the Dutch physicians or the American discover the cause of blight, we shall know exactly the cause of pear blight—and not later.

## The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, DEC. 13, 1884.

There will be a Farmers' Institute at the hall of the New England Agricultural Society, from 10 o'clock to 12 o'clock, A. M., on Saturday, Dec. 20th inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The American electrical exhibition was opened with due ceremony on Monday last.

Terrific weather has prevailed on the English coast, and reports of marine disasters are numerous.

The Board of Aldermen have referred the order giving leave to the Bay State Gas Company to lay pipes in the streets of Boston to the next city government.

A comprehensive system of reciprocity treaties, and a number of others, have been sent to the Senate for its ratification.

The recent account of the Arkansas train robbers makes decidedly interesting reading. What wonder that certain parties at least of this country are still denied a title to civilization.

The United States Supreme Court has decided that Chinese laborers who are in this country at the time the Chinese restrictive treaty was made, can travel between the two countries without obtaining certificates as freely as residents of either country.

There never has been such a pressure for labor in Washington as there is now. All the hotels and boarding houses are engaged, and even the office of carriage factories and furniture lots are to be filled with cots for the sleepers.

## OUR SATURDAY INSTITUTES.

Where practice approaches perfection, theory ever stands ready with its guidance and suggestions. One merely supplements the other. It would be like climbing a ladder, and farmers were to continue to grow without ever coming to practice and comparing results and drawing inferences. Theory thus becomes inductive philosophy, based firmly on the facts of experience. Out of it is evolved the science of agriculture, which is the practice again to verify. If neither could go along without the other, so, too, is it the height of unwisdom and conceit to seek to separate them in actual agricultural experience.

Such reflections as the above will not fail to occur to any intelligent farmer who should read himself with the group that forms what may be styled the Saturday Institute, at headquarters in the Ploughman Building, and later, at the Ploughman House, conversations and discussions that go forward and engage so many of the most enterprising farmers of the favored section. It is far from being an established organization as yet, but it is a germ and possesses the life of which the vigor and lasting organization is very sure to grow for the most valuable purposes.

The meetings held so far contain little to be disputed, the promise and potency of a large work in this line. Like all important and influential results, it has almost all individual, beginning. There are more who stand ready to lend a helping hand to-day than when it was in its stage of inception. That is almost always the case. Momentum for a new project is secured generally with little time. But the rapidly with which movement is being gained for this project is so marked as to establish the fact of its permanence as a most valuable force and factor in the agricultural community.

The subjects which have thus far been discussed at these practically extensive meetings are "The Apple," "Indian Corn," and "Mixed Husbandry," and the weekly progress of the discussion, which is the Ploughman House, are well advanced, and have proved of immediate pleasure and benefit to all their readers. The topics brought up for treatment are to be such only as involve the relation of individual experience and the comparison of various views on the methods of culture and care. Out of such fresh and informal statements is sure to be obtained a fund of living information and productive suggestions, which formal agricultural treatises never contain.

By no means the least interesting and instructive feature of these meetings are the contributions of the different products of the farm, representing, as they do, so many different conditions of soil and hardly less different methods of culture. The Ploughman is spread with specimens of the garden, the field, the orchard and the meadow, presents an attractive sight. It is not of so much interest, however, as a mere exhibition as it is in promoting the relation of the Ploughman to the Ploughman. The Ploughman is spread with specimens of the garden, the field, the orchard and the meadow, presents an attractive sight. It is not of so much interest, however, as a mere exhibition as it is in promoting the relation of the Ploughman to the Ploughman.

heartily welcome, and a close similarity of culture may be left to make them friends very soon. We shall welcome as many as will come to our Saturday Institute, and we herewith invite them to bring with them whatever they may have produced that promises to contribute to the fund of common remark and common information.

## "PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY."

Massachusetts Grange, No. 38.

Inasmuch as a widespread interest is manifested in the above named Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, which is located in Boston, we have thought it not unimportant to present to the readers of the Ploughman some of the points in the Grange history antecedent to the organization of No. 38, about which the memories of many people may have suffered a natural relaxation. The resolution cannot be but specially interesting to the members of the Grange, who are enrolled in the Order of Patrons of Husbandry in the State within the last two years. Briefly, the case in hand is the suspension of the Massachusetts Grange by the State authority of the Master of the State Grange, after the intervention of the State Grange, his action was taken up to the National Grange for its review. Having been fully considered, more especially in relation to the vested power for such action by the State of the Grange, he was sustained by the decision of the National Grange. As a consequence of this recommendation by the National Grange, petitions have been freely circulated and subscribed among the local granges in the State, asking that the cause of suspension be revoked, and that Massachusetts Grange No. 38 be reinstated in its former field of influence and usefulness. The grounds for the action of the Master of the State Grange being that Massachusetts Grange No. 38 failed to comply with the letter of the requirements of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and that the National Grange Court unanimously recommended the revocation of the order of suspension in view of the fact that Massachusetts Grange No. 38 has given a solemn pledge that for the future it will comply with the letter and spirit of the laws of the Order. It would thus appear to every intelligent and candid person that, as a cause, even of imaginary disobedience or indifference, no reason is given for the revocation of the order of suspension. The National Grange Court and the petitioning local granges of the State. The general belief among members of the Order is that the good of the Order will be best promoted by the revocation of the act of suspension.

That is the case as it stands before the worthy Master and the body of the Order in Massachusetts. In order to view the whole matter in the clearest light, a few points of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and of the National Grange, and of the State Grange, and of the local granges of the State. The general belief among members of the Order is that the good of the Order will be best promoted by the revocation of the act of suspension.

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## INDUSTRIAL PARTNERSHIPS.

At a time when the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry is experiencing in different parts of the country with cooperative theories, for the benefit of the farmer and his family, it is well to look back over the experience with these theories in other countries, and especially in England. It is well enough ascertained by this time that the attempt to carry the cooperative principle to production has not proved successful, where it has been attempted in any way. In 1883, we find there were only twenty-four cooperative producing societies in England, having a membership of 4,203, a capital of \$170,000, a trade of about \$3,000,000, and a profit of only \$175,000.

At the end of last year, there were 1,241 cooperative societies, having a membership of 67,463, a capital of nearly \$400,000,000, a business of about \$140,000,000, and an annual profit of about \$11,000,000. Cooperative stores are common with these cooperative societies, obtaining their supplies from a great wholesale establishment of like character. The customers are the members of the societies, who buy more and better goods for the money than they could obtain elsewhere, besides enjoying a better individual price in the profits. Such stores in this country have never as yet proved successful.

Thus the principle of cooperative distribution has worked well in England, where it was the principle of cooperative production, but it has failed in this country. A capable writer in the Fortnightly Review endeavors to prove that this sort of productive societies will not succeed in the current conflict between labor and capital. Nevertheless he sees no other way out of the difficulty but to insist that, of both, they may jointly assume the risk and enjoy the profits of industrial enterprise. Instead of cooperative production, therefore, he advocates industrial partnership. Two large business houses in London have said to be combined in a new form of modified system of industrial partnership. The same experiment has been tried successfully in New York, in the case of the Century Magazine. A celebrated founder of France has recently been transformed by his associates into an industrial partner. The writer in the Fortnightly Review explains the plan of industrial partnership. The capitalist furnishes a specified amount of capital for the industry, he is the responsible and actual manager, aided by the assistance of the industrial partner. The industrial partner is a man of business, who works agreed upon. The workmen are to be paid 'subsistence wages' out of the capital, to begin with, without regard to profit or loss. These wages would of course be below the current rate of such wages.

Solutions were given by the industrial partner, at the rate of five per cent. of his furnished capital. If a loss came out at the end of a year, instead of a profit, such loss would be written off the capital, the capitalist in this way paying his share of the loss in money, and the laborer paying his share in the sacrifice of the surplus earnings which he would have received over and above his subsistence wages, in case of a profit. Should there, however, be a profit at the end of a year, a certain percentage of it goes first to the laborer, and the balance to the capitalist, at the rate of five per cent. of his furnished capital. If a loss came out at the end of a year, instead of a profit, such loss would be written off the capital, the capitalist in this way paying his share of the loss in money, and the laborer paying his share in the sacrifice of the surplus earnings which he would have received over and above his subsistence wages, in case of a profit.

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## READ AND RUN.

It is stated that Congressmen Hewitt will offer a bill during the present session of the House, which will be known as the "Bacon and Ham Bill," and will carry out the Mexican tariff is disposed of.

The annual meeting of the New England Milk Producers' Association was held at the Tremont House, Dec. 9, at 10 o'clock, A. M., in the hall of the Boston Hotel. The President, George W. Baker, in the chair. The meeting was attended by about 100 members. The business session was opened by the reading of the minutes of the last year's meeting, which were approved. The report of the Treasurer, Mr. M. P. Smith, was read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year. The report of the Secretary, Mr. J. W. D. W., was also read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year.

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## THE "MILK PRODUCERS."

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND MILK PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE TREMONT HOUSE, BOSTON, DEC. 9, 1884.

The annual meeting of the New England Milk Producers' Association was held at the Tremont House, Dec. 9, at 10 o'clock, A. M., in the hall of the Boston Hotel. The President, George W. Baker, in the chair. The meeting was attended by about 100 members. The business session was opened by the reading of the minutes of the last year's meeting, which were approved. The report of the Treasurer, Mr. M. P. Smith, was read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year.

The report of the Secretary, Mr. J. W. D. W., was also read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year. The report of the Treasurer, Mr. M. P. Smith, was read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year. The report of the Secretary, Mr. J. W. D. W., was also read, and showed that the association had a balance of \$1,000 at the close of the year.

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## BY A. W. BELLAW.

chiffonist felt when a sound from below like the banging of a door caught his ear. He first sitting at the foot of the stairs, he saw the room door, and so took of sight, in a ruffled form, of the pettified waitress. There was horrible pause, during which she could almost have been holding her breath; but listen! then she heard him hastily and stealthily descend the stairs and more along the lobby below; and then there was standing upon a scuffin' and siffling again the banging of a door and rush of feet, and then the furious baying of a chained water dog.

It was clear that something dreadful had happened, and Mae May recoiled with shudder: the fact that the intruder had carried away some one's life, she knew, was certain. Yet, owing to her own peculiar thoughts, the young lady was for a moment or two unable to stir. Her horror was overwrought, and, at least of it was caused by the loss of the valuables. It was she who

gentleman and artist was a mere adventurer and murderous thief. This was the outline of my swift thoughts as I sat there by the bedside of the half-stuporized servant-girl. Yes, thrilling as was the discovery, I resolved to set with the utmost caution before even hinting at such a supposition to another. A mere resemblance in dress was nothing. A dozen men might wear the same kind of hat and coat. I would need better assurance.

I returned to the mistress of the house, and as easily and naturally as possible led her to speak of Mr. Harry Henderson, and found that she had not the remotest suspicion of him being anything but a gentleman clever and respectably connected. The facts she spoke of, indeed, seemed to prove that he was at least a man of mature age, all his antecedents were familiar to her, from his repu-

"Well, I suppose we had better go," I said, at last.

"All right. Do you wish to take anything with you?" he answered with the utmost readiness, though evidently feeling the position acutely.

"Nothing but the coat and hat," I answered, "but if you'll get a light I'll have a look around the rooms before I lock them up."

He struck a match and lit the lamp, and I searched the rooms thoroughly, but I found nothing more tending to connect him with the crime. I then fastened the windows, locked the room and left the house. There was no stir outside whatever, and we went to the police station without attracting

waned all the world passed or glared without,  
 made it a grateful resting place, indeed,  
 "People came and went dreamily and still  
 matrons with babies in arms, black, men and  
 white, old fishermen from Italy, fruit men  
 from the further Sicily, pirates and robbers,  
 may be, all coming here to dip their fingers  
 in the holy water, cross themselves, kneel a  
 moment, pray and pass on and out to their  
 respective robberies.  
 "I was a well packaged and curly head-  
 ed half Italian or Moor, or negro, or the  
 good Lord knows what, came lastly in, bare  
 footed, bareheaded, barearmed; indeed, she  
 was bare generally, save her great, splendid  
 shock of curly hair. And she was as beau-  
 tiful—as beautiful to look upon—as she was  
 undolent and dirty; and that is saying that  
 she was about as pretty as possible.  
 She tipped up, got a dirty little hand w

like the wings of butternut. Now they spread wide upon the surface of the water, and now they closed like the wings of water-cress in a breeze. They fanned the breasts as they moved, and all the gorgeous colors were marked in the sunshine.

"How beautiful! Do they come from fairy land?" we exclaimed. Suddenly the boats were surrounded by a great number of fish, some large and majestic, some of feminine proportions, and some of the shape of lovely sea-charms. Some were swimming, others darting, and others undulating on the surface of the water; and ever and anon, as they rose above the waves, the water drops glittered on the pure white marble. We could find no words to express the rapture we felt. The scene surpassed the senses like the beautiful visions of another world; and the heart

voice he said, addressing himself to the officers, "Gentlemen, the position on the right must be retaken." With that he was killed and galloped off.

**WHAT A CENT GROWS TO.**

(From Good Cheer.)

It seems of little value, but if it is decided a few times, it grows to a marvellous sum. A young lady in Portland told her father in a very rash promise, by way of getting this fact on his promise, he modestly proposed that if her father would give her only one cent on one day, double the amount on each successive day for just one month, she would pledge herself never to ask of him another cent as long as she lived. **Pater familias,**

to the top of it is skinned off. Then it is put in a tub to cool, and when cold it is covered with beef or pork. The meat is well covered with pickle, and should be put down for at least two days after boiling, during which time it should be thoroughly sprinkled with powdered saltpetre, which removes all the surface blood, etc., leaving the meat fresh and clean. Some boil the pickle, and find it to answer better, though the operation of boiling produces a little more saltiness. The dirt which is to be found in salt and sugar. If the recipe is strictly followed it will require a single trial to prove its superiority over the common way, or most ways, of pickling down meat, and will not soon be abandoned for any other. The meat is unadorned for sweetness, delicacy and freshness.

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